

The illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons is among the greatest threats to regional security in less- developed areas of the world undergoing civil strife. As an intelligence officer in the Naval Reserves, serving during the conflict in the Balkans, I witnessed first- hand the atrocities small arms and light weapons can cause when used for ethnic cleansing and war crimes. I was also the keynote speaker at an Amnesty International event on this subject in Washington, DC, in September 2005. My address came prior to the screening of the film *Lord of War* where I was joined by actor Ethan Hawke.



For more information on human rights issues, please visit the following websites: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/> and <https://www.un.org/>